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DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW by NIMA/DOD 3/27/00

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Manufacturing and Service Division, ORR

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ATTENTION : MS/CST

THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS

FROM : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT : Status of Rail Line Between Kun-ming and Nei-chiang, China

REFERENCES: (a) ORR Requirement No. C-RR4-81,027 (b) CIA/PID Project No. 265-64

1. This memorandum is a response to the above requirement which requests that a study be made on the status of the rail line connecting Kun-ming (25 04N - 102 41E) and Nei-chiang (29 36N - 105 03E). To be noted in this study are: recent improvements and expansion, state of construction, gauge, alignment, and evidence of expansion at yards and stations. Much of the desired information is shown on the attached annotated map (CIA/PID/IB-P-513/64).

2. The rail line which proceeds toward Kun-ming from Nei-chiang branches off of the main Cheng-tu to Chung-king line at Nei-chiang. From this city, the single tracked, standard-gauge line extends in a southwest direction, approximately 20 nautical miles, over relatively flat land to the city of Tzu-kung-shih (29 21N - 104 45E). This section of the line is operational. Immediately east of the city, two recently constructed spurs and a yard were noted which serve industries to the north and south of the gity. From Tzu-kung-shih, the line assumes a more southerly course, through approximately 30 nautical miles of hilly terrain, and then bears southwest and south for about 10 nautical miles into I-pin (28 46N - 104 37E). This section of the line is operational. Approximately two nautical miles north of I-pin, an auxiliary line branches off to the northeast and services several small villages and mining areas. This spur is presently complete and operational to a point (28 57N - 104 54E) approximately 21 nautical miles from I-pin, and has several turning wyes and small yards located along it at various intervals. This branch could feasibly be extended to the east and north to connect with the main line to Chung-king. From I-pin to Kun-ming, the track lies in a southwest direction along the Chin-shan-Chiang (Yangtze River) and is operational for about 14 nautical miles. At this point the track bridges the Chin-shan-Chiang and becomes inoperable on the south bank of the river (28 38N - 104 25E). The alignment from here to the end of construction (28 23N - 104 15E), approximately 22 nautical miles, follows the Heng Chiang (river) through very rugged mountainous terrain. This section of

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the road appears to be in an early stage of construction with some cutting and filling done, piers and abutments in place for numerous bridges, and some tunnel work completed. The level of construction activity along the section is impossible to assess because of the lack of good comparative photo coverage; however, indications are that work has been suspended at present. In order to connect this section of the route with the existing operational line, which extends northeast out of Kun-ming, the line would have to traverse approximately 110 nautical miles of very rough, mountainous terrain. The rail line from Kun-ming is standard gauge and single-tracked. At this time, the line is completed and in use for about 125 nautical miles,

25X1D and underconstruction for an additional six or seven. The end of this road is at (26 22N - 104 14E). No significant improvements or extension of this line has been noted since

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The photo analysts assigned to this project were who may be contacted on extension 2547, should questions arise concerning this study. This project is considered to be complete.



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ENCLOSURES:

1 Annotated Map (2 copies) (CIA/PID/IB-P-513/64)



